

1.0: INTRODUCTION

The City of Lowell is in the process of developing its Annual Action Plan for fiscal year 2023-2024. In accordance with the requirements of the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), the plan will incorporate the statutory requirements for the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), & Emergency Solutions Grants (ESG). This document is designed to provide guidance to applicants who wish to submit proposals for funding under the CDBG or ESG programs.

SCHEDULE FOR DEVELOPMENT OF ANNUAL ACTION PLAN

WHAT	WHEN	WHERE	PURPOSE
Public Hearing #1	Monday December 5, 2022 at 6:00pm	Via Zoom	To provide information on what CDBG and ESG are and eligible activities.
Public Hearing #2	Monday December 12, 2022 at 6:00 pm	Via Zoom	Provide technical assistance on submission of RFP,
Release of RFP	Friday December 22, 2022 at 12:00 pm Noon	Lowellma.gov	To release the applications for CDBG and ESG funding.
RFP Due	Friday January 27, 2023 at 12:00 pm Noon	DPD Offices, 50 Arcand, Drive, 2 nd Floor, Lowell, MA 01852	No incomplete or late applications will be accepted.
Hearing #3	Date TBD	Via Zoom	Mandatory for organizations that have been tentatively selected for funding
Draft Annual Action Plan Released *30 day citizen comment period begins	Date TBD	DPD, City Clerk's Office, Pollard Memorial Library, www.lowellma.gov	The Draft Action Plan and a tentative list of acceptable proposals will be available for review.
30 Day citizen comment period ends	Date TBD		End of the citizen comment period.
Council Meeting for approval	Date TBD	City Council Chambers, Lowell City Hall	The final Annual Action Plan will be presented to the City Council for their approval before the plan is sent to HUD.
Award Announcement	May – June	DPD – lowellma.gov	Award letters will be mailed/emailed to all applicants accepted for funding.
Funding authorized by HUD	August – September	HUD	HUD will review final plan and comments. Funding will be authorized upon HUD's acceptance.

2.0: ELIGIBLE ACTIVITIES

2.1 - Eligible Applicants:

Funds are available to for-profit and non-profit corporations and organizations. * Important notice regarding new mandatory federal reporting requirement: On April 2, 2022, the federal government implemented a new process in SAM.gov to validate entities as a first step in requesting a Unique Entity ID (UEI #). This UEI # has replaced the DUNS number requirement. Completing this registration process is free. **No awards will be made without this information.**

2.2 - Grant Program Descriptions & Eligible Activities:

The City of Lowell's Department of Planning and Development is requesting proposals for Program Year 2023-2024 for funding from the following grant programs:

Community Development Block Grant (CDBG):

The CDBG program provides grants for activities whose principal beneficiaries are low- to moderate- income households **at or below 80%** of the area median income (Lowell's area median income FY2022 is \$ 126,500). Also Presumed LMI are violence victims, abused children, homeless, disabled, and those with mental illness. The goals of the program are to provide decent, safe and sanitary housing, a suitable living environment and to expand economic opportunities. To commit funds the proposed activity must be an eligible activity that meets **one of three** National Objectives of the CDBG Program. *More information can be found in Title 24 CFR Part 570.

Objective #1: Provide a benefit to low- and moderate- income persons

- Area Benefit 51 – 80% LMI service area
- Limited Clientele, specific to group/person
- Housing Activity 51% occupied LMI
- Job Creation/retention

Objective #2: Prevent or eliminate slum and blight

- Area Basis: under state/legal definition
- Spot Basis: to prevent spread
- Urban Renewal Area: to complete renewal

Objective #3: Meet a recent, urgent community need that threatens the health or welfare of residents, where no other funding exists

Additionally, 70% of expenditure must benefit an LMI population, and in particular, meet the targets of the Lowell Consolidated Plan Goals & Objectives. This can be found on the city website at www.Lowellma.gov.

Public service programs, including but not limited to those concerned with employment, crime prevention, child care, health, drug abuse, education, fair housing counseling, energy conservation, and welfare, are eligible for CDBG assistance. At the time it first receives CDBG assistance, a public service program must provide **either a new service or a quantifiable increase in the level of an existing service** above that which has been provided by or on behalf of the City of Lowell in the previous program year before the submission of the Annual Action Plan. **Please note: Funding caps have been established for the CDBG Public Service Cap funding pool. Award amounts for programs in this category will be at \$30,000.00 minimum.**

Applicants of capital improvements projects, including but not limited to improvements to public facilities, should carefully consider the project timeline when applying for CDBG funds. The City will require that projects funded with FY 2023-2024 CDBG dollars have a start date no later than November 1, 2024. Failure to meet this deadline may result in the recapture of funds. Recaptured funds will be returned to the CDBG program and become available for distribution for future eligible projects.

Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG):

The Emergency Solutions Grant Program, originally established by the Homeless Housing Act of 1986 to address homelessness among individuals and families in the United States, was incorporated in 1987 into subtitles B of Title IV of the Stewart B. McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 11371-11378).

On May 28, 2009, President Obama signed the Homeless Emergency Assistance and Rapid Transition to Housing (HEARTH) Act, a bill that reauthorized the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance programs and substantially revised the Emergency Shelter Grant Program. In its revision, the Emergency Shelter Grant Program was renamed the Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) Program.

ESG funds may be used to assist homeless persons and those at risk of becoming homeless. The ESG program provides funding to: (1) engage homeless individuals and families living on the street; (2) improve the number and quality of emergency shelters for homeless individuals and families; (3) help operate these shelters; (4) provide essential services to shelter residents; (5) rapidly re-house homeless individuals and families; and (6) prevent families and individuals from becoming homeless.

Prior to implementing an ESG program, all sub-recipients of ESG funding must be familiar with and knowledgeable of the following regulations and program requirements:

- **ESG Regulations: 24 CFR Part 576** – The ESG Interim Rule
- **HEARTH Homeless Definition Final Rule: 24 CFR Parts 91.582 and 583** – The final rule, published in the Federal Register on December 5, 2011, provides the homeless definition which applies to the ESG program.

The ESG Interim Rule, published in the Federal Register on December 5, 2011, revises the regulations for the Emergency Shelter Grant program by establishing the regulations for the Emergency Solutions Grant program, which replaces the Emergency Shelter Grant program.

The Homeless Emergency Assistance and Rapid Transition to Housing Act of 2009 (HEARTH Act), enacted into law on May 20, 2009, consolidates three of the separate homeless assistance programs administered by HUD under the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act.

The HEARTH Act also codifies into law the Continuum of Care planning process, a longstanding part of HUD's application process to assist homeless persons by providing greater coordination in responding to their needs.

ESG sub-recipients are required, as much as possible, to coordinate ESG activities with other programs targeted toward homeless individuals and families, as well as mainstream housing, health, social services, employment, education and youth programs for which homeless and at-risk families and individuals may be eligible. Other agencies with which sub-recipients shall coordinate may include, for example, but shall not be limited to, the CoC, HUD-VASH, Education for Homeless Children and Youth, Health Care for the Homeless, Runaway and Homeless Youth, Homeless Veterans Reintegration, Section 8, Public Housing, HOME Investment Partnership, the Workforce Investment Act, and TANF programs.

The change in the program’s name, from Emergency Shelter Grant Program to Emergency Solutions Grant Program, reflects the change in the program’s focus from addressing the needs of the homeless people in emergency shelters to assisting people to quickly regain stability in permanent housing after experiencing a housing crisis and/or homelessness. The ESG funds can be utilized for the following purposes:

- The rehabilitation or conversion of buildings for use as emergency shelter for the homeless;
- The payment of certain expenses related to operating emergency shelters;
- Essential services related to emergency shelters and street outreach for the homeless, which cannot exceed 60% of the City’s total ESG allocation, per ; and
- Homelessness prevention and rapid re-housing assistance.

Additionally, the Emergency Solutions Grant formed by the McKinney-Vento Act as amended by the HEARTH Act makes participation in a Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) a statutory requirement for all ESG recipients. As part of this application, ESG applicants must identify the HMIS it currently uses or to identify the organization that is responsible for HMIS.

Eligible Activities:

Emergency Solutions Grant Funding can be used for five program activities: street outreach, emergency shelter, homelessness prevention, rapid re-housing assistance, and HMIS. (The City of Lowell, as the grant recipient, is restricted from awarding any more than 60% of its allocation towards street outreach and emergency shelter activities combined, in accordance with federal regulations.

Street Outreach

Funds can be used for costs of providing essential services necessary to reach out to unsheltered homeless people; connect them with emergency shelter, housing, or critical services; and provide urgent non-facility based care to unsheltered homeless people who are unwilling or unable to access emergency shelter, housing or an appropriate health facility.

Eligible Street Outreach Activities (in accordance with federal regulations 24 C F R 5 7 6 Emergency Solutions Grants Programs, Sub-part B) include:

- Engagement
- Case Management
- Emergency Health Services
- Emergency Mental Health Services
- Transportation

Emergency Shelter

Funds may be used for costs of providing essential services to families and individuals in emergency shelters, renovating buildings to be used as emergency shelters for homeless families and individuals, and operating emergency shelters.

Eligible Emergency Shelter activities (in accordance with federal regulations 24 CFR 576 Emergency Solutions Grants Programs, Subpart B) include:

- **Essential Services:**

- Case management
- Child care
- Education services
- Employment assistance and job training
- Outpatient health services
- Legal services
- Life skills training
- Mental health services
- Substance abuse treatment services
- Transportation

- **Renovations:**

Eligible costs include labor, materials, tools and other costs for renovation (including major rehabilitation or conversion of a building into an emergency shelter). The emergency shelter must be owned by a government entity or private nonprofit organization.

- **Shelter Operations:**

Eligible costs are the costs of maintenance (including minor or routine repairs), rent, security, fuel, equipment, insurance, utilities, food, furnishings and supplies necessary for the operation of the emergency shelter. Where no appropriate emergency shelter is available for a homeless family or individual, eligible costs may also include hotel or motel vouchers for that family or individual.

Homelessness Prevention

Funds may be used to provide housing relocation and stabilization services and short- or medium-term rental assistance necessary to prevent an individual or family from moving into an emergency shelter and prevent incidences of homelessness. Eligible Homelessness Prevention activities (in accordance with federal regulations 24 C F R 576 Emergency Solutions Grants Programs, Subpart B) include:

- **Financial assistance costs:**
 - Rental application fees
 - Security deposits equal to no more than 2 months' rent
 - Last month's rent
 - Utility deposits
 - Utility payments
 - Moving costs
 - Temporary storage fees for up to 3 months
 - Up to 6 months of utility payments in arrears per service
- **Service costs:**
 - Housing search and placement
 - Housing stability case management
 - Mediation
 - Legal services
 - Credit repair/Counseling Services
 - Short-term and medium-term rental assistance (up to 24 months)
 - Payment of rental arrears consists of a one-time payment for up to 6 months of rent in arrears, including any late fees on those arrears.

Rapid Re-Housing

ESG funds may be used to provide housing relocation and stabilization services and short- or medium-term rental assistance necessary to help a homeless individual or family move as quickly as possible into permanent housing and achieve stability in that housing. Eligible Rapid Re-housing Assistance activities (in accordance with federal regulations 24 CFR 576 Emergency Solutions Grants Programs, Subpart B) include:

- **Financial assistance costs:**
 - Rental application fees
 - Security deposits equal to no more than 2 months' rent
 - Last month's rent
 - Utility deposits
 - Utility payments
 - Moving costs
 - Temporary storage fees for up to 3 months
 - Up to 6 months of utility payments in arrears per service

- **Service costs:**
 - Housing search and placement
 - Housing stability case management
 - Mediation
 - Legal services
 - Credit repair/Counseling Services
- Short-term and medium-term rental assistance (up to 24 months)
- Payment of rental arrears consists of a one-time payment for up to 6 months of rent in arrears, including any late fees on those arrears.

HMIS

ESG funds may be used to pay the costs of contributing data to the HMIS designated by the Continuum of Care for the area including the costs of purchasing hardware, software licenses or equipment, obtaining technical support, completing data entry and analysis, monitoring and reviewing data quality, training, reporting, and coordinating and integrating the system.

Ineligible Activities:

Ineligible costs include, but may not be limited to:

- Recruitment
- Depreciation
- Acquisition or new construction of an emergency shelter for the homeless
- Costs associated with the organization rather than the specific program renovation, rehabilitation, or conversion of structures used exclusively for religious purposes or which will otherwise promote religious interests except through the creation or utilization of a wholly secular entity
- Any costs associated with advertisements, pamphlets, surveys, etc.
- Staff training, entertainment, conferences or retreats
- Public relations or fundraising
- Recipient bad debts/late fees
- Program participant mortgage assistance/payments
- Recipient mortgage/debt service
- Indirect costs

2.3: Consolidated Plan Goals and Objectives

The table below outlines the priority need categories that HUD has found to be eligible to be supported with Consolidated Plan program funds. Below each goal, the high and medium priority objectives are listed. A core component of the public outreach in preparing for this plan was to prioritize among the lengthy list of real needs given the limited amount of funding available through the Consolidated Plan programs. Proposed programs must address at least one of these objectives.

LOWELL CONSOLIDATED PLAN GOALS & OBJECTIVES:

GOAL A: HOMELESS/HIV/AIDS
<u>Objectives</u>
1. Increase the number of homeless persons moving into permanent housing
2. End chronic homelessness
GOAL B: NON-HOMELESS SPECIAL NEEDS
<u>Objectives:</u>
1. Increase range of housing options and related services for persons with special needs
GOAL C: RENTAL HOUSING
<u>Objectives:</u>
1. Increase the supply of affordable rental housing particularly for households earning < 50% AMI
2. Improve the quality of affordable rental housing
3. Improve access to affordable rental housing
4. Improve access to affordable rental housing for minorities
GOAL D: OWNER-OCCUPIED HOUSING
<u>Objectives:</u>
1. Increase the availability of affordable owner housing
2. Improve the quality of owner housing
3. Improve access to affordable owner housing
4. Improve access to affordable owner housing for minorities
GOAL E: PUBLIC FACILITIES
<u>Objectives:</u>
1. Improve quality/increase quantity of neighborhood facilities for low-income persons
GOAL F: INFRASTRUCTURE
<u>Objectives:</u>
1. Improve quality/increase quantity of public improvements for low-income persons
GOAL G: ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
<u>Objectives:</u>
1. Improve economic opportunities for low-income persons
2. Remediate and redevelop brownfields
GOAL H: PUBLIC SERVICES
<u>Objectives:</u>
1. Improve services for low- and moderate- income persons

2.4 Encouraging Collaborations:

Given the growing demand for federal funds and a need to streamline reporting requirements, the City of Lowell strongly encourages agencies to apply for federal funds as a collaborative. The intent of a collaborative is to help increase the efficiency in service delivery, improve the value of data reported, improve the ability to analyze level of unmet needs, increase capacity of programs, and reduce the reporting burden of the grant programs. The increased level coordination could also provide participating agencies with an opportunity to share best practices, better allocate resources, and even share volunteers.

The City is defining a collaborative as two or more organizations that share valuable resources and work together to increase efficiency in providing services. Partnering agencies may provide a similar type of service or a continuum of service to reach a similar outcome. One of the participating agencies must serve as the Lead Entity and will be responsible for the application of funds, management and disbursement of funds to partnering agencies, and coordination of required reporting. All partnering agencies that enter into a collaborative should sign a Memorandum of Agreement.

All reporting requirements and reimbursement requests will continue to require documentation as given in the appropriate Federal regulations and City policies. Collaborative applicants should identify themselves on the proposal submission form and are allowed additional narrative space in this application to define the roles of the partnering agencies and describe how the collaboration will improve the level of service provided to Lowell's low- and moderate-income residents. As an additional incentive, agencies participating in a collaborative may be eligible for an increase in the level of funding historically received to assist with the administrative responsibilities associated with organizing and managing the proposed partnership.

Examples of collaborative programs that may be supported with federal funds are described below:

Single Service Coordination: Organizations that provide a similar service such as food distribution to low- and moderate-income households may partner to ensure the type and availability of food meet the needs of Lowell's households. In this example all participating agencies may continue to provide the same individual services on their own but would coordinate the reporting and financial responsibilities of the grant as a collaborative.

Continuum of Service: Organizations that provide different types of service to an individual or household but whose program goals are similar may also partner. For example, an agency that provides case management to low- or moderate-income individuals who have lost their job may partner with an agency that provides career development services to help train those individuals for a particular trade. In turn these agencies partner with a third organization that provides support to small start-up businesses, which may have employment opportunities for the out of work individuals.

The City of Lowell understands a collaboration will not easily fit for some projects, however when the same type of service is being provided by more than one agency, the City will prefer to structure contracts in this manner. Agencies are strongly encouraged to begin thinking about how their program may be similar to or compliment another organization in the City and how they could partner for the use of federal funds.

3.0: APPLICATION PROCESS

3.1 Application Instructions:

Please supply the following information on the attached application:

I. Contact Information:

Provide the requested contact and mailing information for the proposed project. If agencies are applying as a collaborative, please provide contact information for the lead entity only and list all partnering organizations in the space provided.

II. General Description:

Project Description: Provide a brief description of how the funds will be spent and the community needs addressed by the proposed activity. Responses to this question will be used in the City's Annual Action Plan.

Consolidated Plan Goals and Objectives: Identify the priority need and objectives, from the list on page 7 of this document that best match the proposed project.

Project Narrative: Use the spaces provided to answer each prompt and describe the proposed project. Your answers should be clear and brief.

Budget Description: The Proposed Budget page consists of two budget types: non-construction and construction. Select the appropriate budget type for the proposed project and complete the form. Space is provided to include on both CDBG/ESG applications for this and other funding sources. For agencies expecting additional sources of funds, space is provided to identify the source type and whether these funds are committed or pending.

The budget should only include expenses related to the project for which you are seeking funds.

As a reminder, the **ESG program requires the use of matching funds of at least a 1:1 match.**

Federal wage rates (Davis Bacon Regulations) and compliance with Section 3 rules may apply to some construction projects. Applicants are strongly encouraged to speak with DPD staff before submitting an application for any physical improvements.

3.2: Proposal Submission Instructions and Requirements:

To be considered eligible for funding, the following items must be submitted to the Department of Planning and Development.

- **For both the CDBG & ESG Grant Applications**

One (1) signed original with all required documents (listed below) and one (1) copy of just the completed application.

- IRS 501C3 Certificate
- Current list of Board of Directors
- Organization Authorized Signatory (must be listed on Secretary of State website)
- Certified Organization Audit/Financial Statement from most current year
- Complete conflict of interest
- Insurance Certificates – Workers Comp & General Liability
- Mission Statement
- Organization Chart

Complete applications must be received, and will be time-stamped at the Department of Planning and Development, no later than **12:00 NOON on Friday, January 27, 2023**.

Please note, HARD COPIES ONLY no electronic submittals will not be accepted.

No late proposals will be considered.

Complete proposals should be addressed to:

**Attn: Community Development Office
City of Lowell / Department of Planning and Development
JFK Civic Center, 50 Arcand Drive
Lowell, MA 01852**

Any questions concerning proposal requirements, corrections, modifications or withdrawal can be directed to

Susan Murphy	Smurphy@lowellma.gov	978-674-1431
Betty Rawnsley-Erazo	Brawnsley@lowellma.gov	978-674-1418
Sandra Villatoro	Svillatoro@lowellma.gov	978-674-1427

4.0: PROPOSAL EVALUATION PROCESS

4.1: Proposal Selection and Contract Award Process

All proposals will be reviewed and evaluated using the following process:

- DPD staff will create a summary of all CDBG Public Service Cap and ESG proposals received by Friday January 27, 2023. This report, along with all the proposals, will be submitted to the Internal Review Committee to begin the project selection process.
- The Committee will review all CDBG Public Service Cap and ESG proposals based on the evaluation criteria discussed below, with technical assistance from the City of Lowell's DPD staff.
- Proposed CDBG Capital Improvement Projects will be reviewed at the Department of Planning and Development and evaluated based on the criteria discussed below.
- A draft list of recommended proposals will be available to the public for a period of 30 days at the DPD Office, Pollard Memorial Library, the City Clerk's Office, and the City's website (www.lowellma.gov). Notice of the draft Plan will also be published in the *Lowell Sun*.
- During the 30-day citizen comment period, the City will accept and evaluate written citizen comments regarding the initial selection of projects.
- Projects recommended by the Committee will be presented to the City Manager and the City Council for final review and approval before being published in the final Annual Action Plan sent to HUD in May of 2023. Notice of the final Plan will be published in the *Lowell Sun* and the city website www.lowellma.gov
- Selected applicants will be notified of the City Council's approval of the Plan. (Applicants should not assume that their proposal has been accepted for funding until they have received notification from the City.)
- Each grant awarded is subject to the execution of a final agreement between the City and the applicant. The grant amount and the project description are subject to modification by the City. The CDBG and ESG grants are reimbursable programs.

4.2: Evaluation Criteria

The Internal Review Committee will use the following criteria to evaluate proposals and make recommendations to the City Manager and City Council. In order to be considered for funding, a proposed activity must meet the minimum criteria identified below.

MINIMUM THRESHOLD CRITERIA:

- 1) Proposed project is eligible for funding according to HUD's regulations and meets at least one of HUD's National Objectives.
- 2) Proposed activity addresses at least one goal of the City of Lowell Consolidated Plan
- 3) Complete Application(s), including required documents

Comparative Criteria: The following comparative criteria will be used to evaluate your application:

Comparative Criteria Categories	Highly Advantageous (HA)	Advantageous (A)	Not Advantageous (NA)
<u>1. Community Need</u> <i>Does the proposed project address a pressing or significant need in the City of Lowell in demonstrated familiarity with said need? Project goals should be consistent with the Priority Need categories identified in the 5-Year Consolidated Plan</i>	Applicant can demonstrate comprehension of said need, and that the proposed project meets a new or growing need in the community that is either not being met or is underserved by other programs. 11-20 Points	Applicant can demonstrate familiarity with said need, and that the proposed project meets an existing need in the community. 5-10 Points	It is unclear from the application if the applicant has comprehension of said need, or if the proposed project meets an unmet community need. 0-4 Points
<u>2. Resources & Capacity</u> <i>Does the organization have the appropriate level of experienced staff and resources to execute the proposed project and the aptitude to meet the need?</i>	Applicant has had experience with other projects similar to the one proposed and can demonstrate strong staff/resource levels capable of successfully implementing the proposed project. 11-20 Points	Applicant has had some experience with other projects similar to the one proposed and has adequate staff/resources capable of completing the proposed project. 5-10 Points	Applicant has limited experience with projects similar to the one proposed and it is unclear from the application if there is adequate staff capacity to complete the proposed project. 0-4 Points
<u>3. Cost Benefit</u> <i>How does the cost of the proposed project compare to its proposed accomplishments?</i>	Proposed project yields a low cost-benefit ratio comparable to similar programs. 6-10 Points	n/a	Proposed project yields a high cost-benefit ratio comparable to similar programs. 0-5 Points
<u>4. Encouraging Partnerships</u> <i>Does the proposed project involve new or existing partnerships?</i>	Applicant and/or proposed activity will encourage new partnerships as a result of the project. 11-20 Points	Applicant will utilize existing partnerships to complete the proposed project. 5-10 Points	Proposed project does not encourage partnerships. 0-4 Points
<u>5. Leveraged Funds</u> <i>Has the organization secured additional funding sources or in-kind support to cover the proposed project?</i>	Applicant has demonstrated the capability of leveraging funds/ in-kind support to cover 50% or more of the proposed project costs. The majority of these leveraged funds are committed. 8-10 Points	Applicant has demonstrated the capability of leveraging funds or in-kind support to cover some of the project costs. 4-7 Points	Applicant has identified few to none additional funds/ in-kind support to cover the proposed project OR the majority of leveraged funds/ in-kind support identified are pending. 0-3 Points
<u>6. Self Sufficiency</u> <i>Will the proposed project be self-sufficient and no longer require CDBG /ESG funding after one year? After a few years?</i>	Applicant is making a one-time request for funds and has demonstrated that the project is capable of becoming self-sufficient beyond one year of funding from CDBG/ESG. 8-10 Points	Applicant has demonstrated that the project is capable of becoming self-sufficient within 2-3 years. 4-7 Points	Applicant is attempting to achieve self-sufficiency but anticipates requesting additional funds beyond the next three years. 0-3 Points
<u>7. New Public Services Program*</u> <i>Is the proposed project offering a new service and is it available from any other providers in the community?</i>	The proposed project offers a new service not provided elsewhere in the City. 8-10 Points	The applicant is seeking funding for a quantifiable increase in level of an existing service. 4-7 Points	The proposed project received a CDBG/ESG grant in the previous year, is not a new service, and does not propose an increase in the level of an existing service. 0-3 Points
<u>8. Homelessness Prevention Programs**</u> <i>Changes to the ESG program via the HEARTH Act place an emphasis on rapid re-housing activities. Proposals including rapid re-housing activities will be given preference for funding.</i>	The proposed project directly or indirectly leads to the attainment of permanent, stable housing for a homeless individual or family. 8-10 Points	The proposed project focuses solely on homelessness prevention activities. 4-7 Points	The proposed project does not involve rapid re-housing or homelessness prevention activities. 0-3 Points

* Applies only to CDBG Public Service Applicants.

** Applies only to ESG Applicant

PROJECT/ACTIVITY SERVICE AREA

